

On page 8, line 30, please insert

Figure 12C shows the positions of methionine and tryptophan residues in viral

after the word "and" and before "pol gene products".

On page 9, line 11, please insert

through

A and Figure 13B (after the phrase "Figure 13")

On page 9, line 11, please delete "is" and insert therefor --are--.

On page 9, line 19, please insert

A-I, Figure 14A-II, Figure 14A-III, Figure 14B-I, Figure 14B-II, and Figure 14B-III

after the phrase "Figure 14".

On page 9, line 24, please insert --(B)-- after "stringent conditions".

At page 55, line 37, after the period ending the sentence, please add the following sentence:

--RNA of the HIV-3 retrovirus virtually hybridizes neither with the Env gene or the LTR close to it, in particular not with the nucleotide sequence 8352-9538 of HIV-1, nor with the sequences of the Pol region of the HIV-1 genome under stringent conditions.

In the Claims

Cancel claims 1-36, without prejudice.

Please add claims 37-38, as follows:

1 ~~37~~ (New) A variant of HIV-3 retrovirus, comprising three core proteins with molecular weights of about 12 kD, about 17 kD, and about 25 kD, an endonuclease with molecular weight of about 31 kD, two reverse transcriptases with molecular weights of about 49 kD and about 62 kD, a transmembrane protein with molecular weight of about 41 kD, and an outer membrane protein with molecular weight of about 120 kD, the variant characterized in that its RNA does not hybridize with RNA or DNA derived from either the Env gene, the LTR sequence, or the Pol region of the HIV-1 genome, under stringent conditions.